TRANSPORTION, AIR POLLUTION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES (TAPAS), A 6-CITY INTEGRATED HEALTH RISK ASSESSMENT PROGRAM OF ACTIVE TRAVEL POLICIES: THE WARSAW CASE STUDY

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Background and Aims: Within the TAPAS research program, quantitative assessments are developed for six case study cities in Europe, linking determinants of active travel to potential co-benefits and co-risks of modal shifts from motorized to non-motorized modes of travel. We describe here the Warsaw case study.

Methods: The collection of required data is made as collaboration between different research institutions and city authorities. In addition to already existing data, data from measurements and from the questionnaires will be collected in this and in connected projects. The stakeholder will be contacted in the near future to discuss the data, available policy options and the use of the results. The assessing of uncertainties in the TAPAS model will be special focus.

Results: Warsaw, capital city of Poland, has officially 1.7 million inhabitants. The total population of the city is unknown and it is possibly much larger than official one. During the week days and weekends only 0.9% and 1.7% of the trips, respectively, are made with bicycles. Approximately 20% of the trips are made by foot. Large different between walking and bicycling activity is likely to be due to infrastructural issues. The climate in Warsaw is typical central-European climate with daily mean temperature of 8.2°C and annual Precipitation of 495 mm. Thus, the climate is good for both walking and for cycling most of the year. However, Warsaw bike lane network is fragmented and safe bicycle parking places are rare. Both of these will decrease the usability of bicycles inside the city. Therefore the relevant policies we are considering for assessment include 1) the development of the bike lane network; 2) bicycle parking; 3) bicycle renting system.

Conclusions: Warsaw is an interesting case for studying a city where the use of bicycles is low but on the same time bicycle infrastructure is under construction.